

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): ~~Extrusion/blow molding~~ An extrusion, blow-molding machine comprising:

~~, of the type having several~~ a plurality of molding units (12) carried by a carousel (10) ~~that which~~ is rotatable around ~~an appreciably~~ a substantially vertical axis (A1), ~~of the type in which each~~ the molding unit (12) ~~has~~ units including a two-part mold, both parts being movable with respect to each other between an open position and a closed position;

~~, of the type in which the machine has~~ an extrusion head (16) ~~that which~~ is placed above the carousel in a specific angular position around the carousel's axis of rotation (A1), ~~of the type in which each mold is controlled~~ the molding units being controllable to be in ~~the~~ an open position when the molding units are respectively ~~corresponding unit (12)~~ is located below the extrusion head (16), and to ~~close again~~ be in a closed position after having seized a section of a preform (15) ~~flowing~~ flowed from the extrusion head (16), ~~and of the type in which each~~ molding unit (12) is

wherein the molding units are mounted on the carrousel in a way that is such that they are
respectively movable between a working position and a retracted position, the retracted position
being to which it is taken just after the a section of preform (15) is seized, and characterized in
that each molding unit (12) is the molding units being mounted on the carrousel is so as to be
able to tilt around ~~an appreciably~~ a substantially horizontal axis of articulation (An), and

wherein the molding units are respectively articulated around an axis (An) which is
substantially tangent to a path of the carrousel.

2. (cancelled)

3. (currently amended): ~~Machine~~ The machine according to claim 21, ~~characterized in~~
~~that~~ wherein the axis of articulation (An) is vertically off center with respect to ~~the a top (24) of~~
the respective molding units ~~unit (12)~~ in the working position so that, at the beginning of the
tilting movement, the movement of the top (24) of the molding ~~unit~~ units has a horizontal
component.

4. (currently amended): ~~Machine~~ The machine according to claim 3, ~~characterized in~~
~~that the~~ wherein a part (18) of the respective molding ~~unit (12)~~ units over which the extrusion
head passes during the tilting movement has a chamfered shape (26).

5. (currently amended): ~~Machine~~ The machine according to claim 1, wherein the molding ~~unit (12) is~~ units are respectively mounted on a cradle ~~(20) that~~ which is articulated on the carrousel ~~(10)~~ by an inner radial side with respect to the axis of rotation (A1) of the carrousel ~~(10)~~.

6. (currently amended): ~~Machine~~ The machine according to claim 1, wherein both parts ~~(18)~~ of the molding units ~~unit (12)~~ are movable with respect to each other in a direction that is appreciably radial with respect to the axis of rotation (A1) of the carrousel ~~(10)~~.

7. (currently amended): ~~Machine~~ The machine according to claim 1, wherein the ~~mold~~ has molding units respectively have at least two cavities ~~(30a, 30b) that~~ which are offset along a direction tangential to the path of the carrousel ~~(10)~~, and wherein the extrusion head ~~(16)~~ has as many dies as the ~~mold has~~ molding units have cavities in order to furnish simultaneously ~~to furnish that many~~ parallel preforms ~~(15a, 15b)~~, the separation of which corresponds appreciably to the offset of the cavities ~~(30a, 30b)~~.

8. (currently amended): ~~Machine~~ The machine according to claim 1, wherein the tilting of the ~~molding unit (12)~~ molding units from its their working ~~position~~ positions to its their tilted ~~position~~ positions is forced by drive means.

9. (currently amended): ~~Machine~~ The machine according to claim 1, wherein the rotation of the carrousel ~~(10)~~ around its axis (A1) is continuous.

10. (new): The machine according to claim 1, wherein the molding units are configured such they are positioned in the retracted position after the section of the preform has been severed from a remaining amount of preform in the extrusion head.